

Filed for intro on 01/09/2001

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 5
By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the pastor and
congregation of White House General Baptist
Church.

WHEREAS, Tennessee has a long heritage of having strong churches that faithfully
serve God, proclaiming the Gospel and providing help to their communities; and

WHEREAS, for nearly two decades the White House General Baptist Church has been
one such noble institution; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 1981 the first service was held at the White House General
Baptist Mission, located on Highway 31 W, approximately two miles north of White House; and

WHEREAS, with 163 congregants in attendance on that fateful day, Bro. Clayton Hall,
Pastor of the Halltown General Baptist Church, delivered an excellent sermon and Bro. H. S.
Jenkins, Director of Home Missions, announced that regular services would start on the next
Sunday; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 1981 services were held with Bro. Billy Bowers having
delivered the message, Bro. Bill Smith led the congregational singing, and Sis. Sandra Bowers
presented the special music; and

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WHEREAS, March 22, 1981 was an important day in church history; the first Sunday School was held with three classes being organized: a Nursery class, taught by Terry and Susan Smith, a Junior class, taught by Roberta Smith, and an Adult class, taught by Bro. Bowers. It was also during that night the first Sunday night service was held; Bro. James Hodges brought the evening message; and

WHEREAS, June 28, 1981 was another momentous day in the life the White House General Baptist Church congregation; the Church Mission met and was organized. Bro. H. B. Jenkins led the service and Bro. Hugh Rogers led the powerful singing; and

WHEREAS, at that important service, Bro. Jim Smith read and commented on the Articles of Faith, and Bro. Harold Akins read and commented on the Church Covenant; and

WHEREAS, the twelve charter members, Billy Bowers, Brian Bowers, Sandra Bowers, Ruth Pond, Gifford Pond, Hugh Rogers, Lucille Oliphant, Bill Smith, Roberta Smith, Susan Smith, Terry Smith, and Anna Lee (Sis) Brown, were recognized during the service; and

WHEREAS, Bro. Clayton Hall gave the charge and presented the Bible and Bro. Charlie Harper led by saying a prayer; and

WHEREAS, at that point in the service, Bro. H. S. Jenkins declared that White House General Baptist Mission was White House General Baptist Church, and the church officers were elected. Billy Powers was named Pastor and Bill Smith as the Treasurer and Clerk, and the service was concluded; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 1981 the church partitioned to join the Portland Association of General Baptists; and

WHEREAS, the first conversions were recorded on August 16, 1981; it was during this special evening that the church had its first Communion and foot washing; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 1991, the first building addition was completed to house Sunday School classes and a baptistry, the first Deacons, Homer Wright and Travis Groves,

were ordained in June of 1992. In June of 1995, Ricky Walker, Bobby McMurtry, Jerry Bain and Jim Milam were ordained; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1994, the congregation was richly blessed when Larry Treadway answered the call to carry on the fine work of Bro. Bowers; and

WHEREAS, under his inspirational guidance, following the Lord's path, the church has grown in numbers, with a current membership of over 160, and, most importantly, in spiritual knowledge; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2000, the White House General Baptist Church broke ground for a new church building which will have sanctuary seating for 316 and new educational wings with classrooms and offices; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause to salute Pastor Larry Treadway and the congregants of the White House General Baptist Church for their exemplary service as a guiding light for their community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we pause in our deliberations to honor Pastor Larry Treadway and the members of the White House General Baptist Church on being a beacon to those in need of God's Word and saving grace. We wish them much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.